

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01270 240917Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----240922Z 019776 /20
O 240844Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 910

S E C R E T CAIRO 1270

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, EAGR, US, EG
SUBJ: INCREASE TO FY77 PL 480 TITLE I PROGRAM

REF (A) STATE 14535, (B) CAIRO 1257,

1. LATE LAST NIGHT FAHMY TELEPHONED. HE HAD JUST RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM WASHINGTON THAT NEA/EGY HAD INFORMED GHORBAL OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE, AS FAHMY HAD IT, "500,000 TONS OF WHEAT" TO EGYPT. GHORBAL HAD BEEN TOLD THIS WAS THE LAST PD SIGNED BY PRES FORD. FAHMY WANTED TO KNOW IF THIS WAS TRUE AND, IF SO, WHETHER IT IS ADDITIONAL WHEAT OR PART OF THE ALREADY PROMISED ONE MILLION TONS. IF TRUE, FAHMY WANTED TO PUBLICIZE IT RIGHT AWAY.

2. SINCE THE CAT WAS OBVIOUSLY OUT OF THE BAG, I CONFIRMED TO FAHMY THAT SUCH A PD HAD BEEN APPROVED. I COULD NOT TELL HIM AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, EXACTLY WHAT THIS ADDITIONAL PL-480 INCREMENT WOULD CONSIST OF. I EXPLAINED THAT EGYPTIAN WHEAT UMR SITUATION, WHICH HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT AND DISMISSED AS IRRELEVANT. I TOLD HIM THAT THE
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EQUIVALENT OF 500,000 TONS OF WHEAT MIGHT BE DIVIDED BETWEEN WHEAT, TOBACCO AND SOYBEAN OILS. THE INTERNAL USG MECHANICS FOR THIS ADDITIONAL INCREMENT, INCLUDING CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION, MIGHT TAKE BETWEEN TWO AND FOUR WEEKS, BUT I WOULD LET HIM KNOW ASAP WHEN ALL ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE. UNTIL THEN, I ASKED HIM NOT RPT NOT TO PUBLICIZE THE INFORMATION. ON THE BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE, DOING SO PRE-

MATURELY COULD ONLY CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH THE CONGRESS WHICH, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, HAD NOT YET BEEN NOTIFIED.

3. FAHMY GRUBMLED SOME THAT HE COULD NOT ANNOUNCE IT NOW AND EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF SOME PUBLIC GESTURES OF SUPPORT TO SADAT FROM USG AND OTHER DONOR STATES AT THIS CRUCIAL JUNCTURE. HE THEN ASKED IF I HAD YET HAD A REPLY FROM PRES CARTER TO FAHMY'S URGENT REQUEST OF SATURDAY FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$500 MILLION IN CIP COMMODITIES (CAIRO 1258). I TOLD HIM IT WAS CLEARLY UNREASONABLE TO EXPECT A REPLY TO A REQUEST OF SUCH MAGNITUDE IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. I WAS SURE HIS REQUEST WAS UNDER STUDY, BUT I COULD NOT COMMENT ON WHAT THE RESPONSE MIGHT BE. FAHMY AGAIN EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR URGENT ACTION.

4. COMMENT: I AM FRANKLY A LITTLE SURPRISED THAT GHORBAL WAS TOLD ABOUT THE ADDITIONAL WHEAT. I INFERRED FROM YOUR CABLE (REF A) AND FROM MY RECENT TALKS IN WASHINGTON THAT, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS WE HAD OUR INTER-AGENCY MECHANICS IN ORDER, WE WERE NOT YET IN A POSITION TO INFORM THE EGYPTIANS ABOUT IT. WE CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR OURSELVES WITH SUCH PREMATURE DISCLOSURES. SINCE WE HAVE APPRISED THE EGYPTIANS OF THE NEW PL-480 ALLOCATION, IT SEEMS TO ME WE SHOULD NOW MAKE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ASAP AND ALSO LET GOE PUBLICIZE IT.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PL 480 TITLE I, FUND ALLOTMENT, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
DecapTION Date: 22 May 2009
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO01270
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770024-1009
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770126/aaaaawew.tel
Line Count: 87
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History: Hold (001 Tobacco) added on 4/16/2009 3:39:10 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ, Hold (001 Tobacco) removed on 4/16/2009 3:45:08 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ (Litigation Hold Lifted)
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 79292bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 STATE 14535, 77 CAIRO 1257
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Review Transfer Date:
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SAS ID: 3525154
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCREASE TO FY77 PL 480 TITLE I PROGRAM
TAGS: EAID, EAGR, US, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/79292bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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